

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A system for trading currencies, comprising:
an electronic brokerage and trading network having at least one computer, display terminal and input, the electronic brokerage and trading network coupled to receive and transmit bids and offers for trading currency; and
a principal market maker computer coupled to the electronic brokerage and trading network, the principal market maker computer operative to receive and transmit the bids and offers and execute currency trades by maintaining a bid and offer market for such currencies.

2. The system defined in claim 1, further comprising a clearing facility for processing currency trades executed by the principal market maker computer.

3. The system defined in claim 1, further comprising means for allowing forward spread trades.

4. The system defined in claim 1, further comprising means for allowing forward outright trades.

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5. ~~The system defined in claim 1, further comprising means for allowing currency swaps.~~

6. ~~The system defined in claim 1, further comprising means for allowing odd value and odd date trades.~~

7. ~~The system defined in claim 1, further comprising means for allowing covered interest rate arbitrage.~~

8. ~~The system defined in claim 1, wherein the network includes a Project A trading system.~~

9. ~~The system defined in claim 1, wherein the network includes a Globex trading system.~~

10. The system defined in claim 1, wherein the network includes a Reuters 2000 trading system.

11. The system defined in claim 1, wherein the network includes an EBS trading system.

12. The system defined in claim 1, wherein the network includes a Minex trading system.

13. The system defined in claim 1, wherein spot and all derived currencies can be traded over the system.

14. A principal market maker/rolling spot link for trading currencies, comprising:

means for receiving a primary currency purchase order, the primary currency purchase order indicative of whether a currency is to be bought or sold;

means for receiving a secondary currency purchase order, the secondary currency purchase order indicative of a currency option hedge;

a principal market maker futures computer coupled to the means for receiving the primary currency purchase order, the principal market maker futures computer operative to execute primary currency purchase orders and maintain a currency futures bid and offer market;

a principal market maker options computer coupled to the means for receiving the secondary currency purchase order, the principal market maker options computer operative to execute secondary currency purchase orders and maintain a currency options bid and offer market; and

a bi-directional communications link coupled between the futures and options computers, the bi-directional communications link to facilitate intermarket trading to manage risk taken in a position resulting from a trade in either market.

15. The link defined in claim 14, further comprising a communications link to rolling spot future trade systems.

16. The link defined in claim 14, further comprising a communications link to currency futures trade systems.

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17. The link defined in claim 14, further comprising a communications link to allow vertical, horizontal and combination spread options trading.

18. The link defined in claim 14, wherein the bi-directional communications link comprises a wireless communication system.

19. The link defined in claim 14, wherein the bi-directional communications link comprises a telephone.

20. The link defined in claim 14, wherein the bi-directional communications link comprises a touch activation computer.

21. The link defined in claim 14, wherein the bi-directional communications link comprises a voice activation computer.

22. A principal market maker/rolling spot link for trading currencies comprising:

means for receiving a primary currency purchase order, the primary currency purchase order indicative of whether a currency is to be bought or sold;

means for receiving a secondary currency purchase order, the secondary currency purchase order indicative of an outright option purchase;

a principal market maker futures computer coupled to the means for receiving the primary currency purchase order, the principal market maker futures computer operative to execute primary currency purchase orders and maintain a currency futures bid and offer market;

a principal market maker options computer coupled to the means for receiving the secondary currency purchase order, the principal market maker options computer operative to execute secondary currency purchase orders and maintain a currency options bid and offer market; and

a bi-directional communications link coupled between the futures and options computers, the bi-directional communications link to facilitate intermarket trading to manage risk taken in a position resulting from a trade in either market.

23. A principal market maker/rolling spot link for trading currencies, comprising:

means for receiving a primary currency purchase order, the primary currency purchase order indicative of whether a currency is to be bought or sold;

means for receiving a secondary currency purchase order, the secondary currency purchase order indicative of an outright option sale;

5 a principal market maker futures computer coupled to the means for receiving the primary currency purchase order, the principal market maker futures computer operative to execute primary currency purchase orders and maintain a currency futures bid and offer market;

10 a principal market maker options computer coupled to the means for receiving the secondary currency purchase order, the principal market maker options computer operative to execute secondary currency purchase orders and maintain a currency options bid and offer market; and

15 a bi-directional communications link coupled between the futures and options computers, the bi-directional communications link to facilitate intermarket trading to manage risk taken in a position resulting from a trade in either market.

24. An electronic bank and institutional market for trading currencies, comprising:

20 a communications interface operative to transmit currency bids and offers from at least one financial institution; and

a principal market maker computer coupled to the communications interface, the principal market maker computer operative to receive the currency bids and offers and execute trades to maintain a market for currency trades.

25 25. The electronic bank and institutional market defined in claim 24 further including a clearing facility coupled to the principal market maker computer, the clearing system operative to confirm and settle trades executed by the principal market maker computer.

30 Sub 89 26. The electronic bank and institutional market defined in claim 24, further comprising a principal market maker options computer.

35 27. The electronic bank and institutional market defined in claim 24, further comprising a bi-directional communications link coupled between the options computer and main computer.

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28. The electronic ~~bank and institutional~~ market defined in claim 24, wherein the link comprises a modem.

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29. The electronic ~~bank and institutional~~ market defined in claim 24, wherein the link comprises a telephone.

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30. The electronic ~~bank and institutional~~ market defined in claim 24, wherein the link comprises a voice activation computer.

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31. The electronic ~~bank and institutional~~ market defined in claim 24, wherein the link comprises a touch screen display.

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32. The electronic ~~bank and institutional~~ market defined in claim 24, wherein the link comprises a keyboard.

33. A system for trading comprising:
an electronic brokerage and trading network having at least one computer, display terminal and input, the electronic brokerage and trading network coupled to receive and transmit bids and offers; and
a principal market maker computer coupled to the electronic brokerage and trading network, the principal market maker computer operative to receive and transmit the bids and offers and execute trades by maintaining a constant bid and offer market.

34. A method of trading currencies, comprising the steps of:
receiving and transiting bids and offers for publicly traded currencies;
storing the received bids and offers in a memory;
identifying matching bids and offers;
executing the matching bids and offers;
identifying unmatched bids and offers; and
providing a complementary trade to maintain a market for such currencies.

35. The method of claim 34 further comprising the step of confirming and

settling said matching bids and offers.

36. The method of claim 34 further comprising the step of confirming and settling said trade.

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37. A method of maintaining a market for publicly traded currencies, comprising the steps of:

receiving a primary currency purchase order, the primary currency purchase order indicative of whether a currency is to be bought or sold;

receiving a secondary currency purchase order, the secondary currency purchase order indicative of a currency option hedge;

matching and executing the primary currency purchase order to maintain a currency futures market;

matching and executing the secondary currency purchase order to maintain a currency options market; and

providing intermarket futures and options trading to manage risk taken in a position resulting from a trade in either market.

38. The method of claim 37 further comprising the step of providing a communications link to rolling spot future trade systems.

39. The method of claim 37 further comprising the step of providing a communications link to currency futures trade systems.

40. The method of claim 37 further comprising the step of providing a communications link to allow vertical, horizontal and combination spread options trading.

41. A method of maintaining a market for publicly traded currencies, comprising the steps of:

receiving a primary currency purchase order, the primary currency purchase order indicative of whether a currency is to be bought or sold;

receiving a secondary currency purchase order, the secondary currency purchase order indicative of an outright option purchase;

matching and executing the primary currency purchase order to maintain

a currency futures market;

matching and executing the secondary currency purchase order to maintain a currency options market; and

providing intermarket futures and options trading to manage risk taken in a position resulting from a trade in either market.

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42. The method of claim 41 further comprising the step of providing a communications link to rolling spot future trade systems.

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43. The method of claim 41 further comprising the step of providing a communications link to currency futures trade systems.

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44. The method of claim 41 further comprising the step of providing a communications link to allow vertical, horizontal and combination spread options trading.

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45. A method of maintaining a market for publicly traded currencies, comprising the steps of:

receiving a primary currency purchase order, the primary currency purchase order indicative of whether a currency is to be bought or sold;

receiving a secondary currency purchase order, the secondary currency purchase order indicative of an outright option sale;

matching and executing the primary currency purchase order to maintain a currency futures market;

matching and executing the secondary currency purchase order to maintain a currency options market; and

providing intermarket futures and options trading to manage risk taken in a position resulting from a trade in either market.

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46. The method of claim 45 further comprising the step of providing a communications link to rolling spot future trade systems.

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47. The method of claim 45 further comprising the step of providing a communications link to currency futures trade systems.

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50. ~~The method of claim 49 further comprising the step of confirming and settling said matched trades.~~

51. A method of trading comprising the steps of:
receiving and transmitting bids and offers;
storing the received bids and offers in a memory;
identifying matching bids and offers;
executing the matching bids and offers;
identifying unmatched bids and offers; and
providing a complementary trade to maintain a market.

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